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on

Aug 14, 2000



Attorney Docket No. A-2-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PHILIP E. EGGERS et al.

Application No.: 09/098,205

Filed: July 27, 1998

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
ELECTROSURGICAL TISSUE
TREATMENT IN CONDUCTIVE FLUID

Examiner: L. Cohen

Art Unit: 3739

AMENDMENT

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed July 7, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 103-137 and amend claims 90, 102 and 156-158 as follows:

90. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim 80, wherein the [active] return electrode is located on a distal end of an instrument shaft, further comprising an insulating matrix on the instrument shaft between the return electrode and the [active] terminal electrode, the insulating matrix comprising an inorganic material.